MUZAK FOR CAGES

DISCOGRAPHY

This is the official "Discography" of **Muzak For Cages and Friends** from LICHTsubsTANZ, all of them private and anonymous music-projects.

Muzak For Cages started in 1980 and created unreleased cassette-music for quite some time, before deciding to go public and release an album in 1998. That but happened for an entirely wrong reason...

From the beginning, **Muzak For Cages** wasn't convinced, that they would ever obey the role, a regualar record company would force onto them. So finding a good record company was difficult; but staying with it, was impossible. **Muzak For Cages** then remained active only in private and only half-heartedly tried to go public again. This was, because **Muzak For Cages** first had to grasp the idea of FREE music... Music is something that should not be corrupeted by an industry, that is deeply rooted in evil.

It was the Internet, that offered a new possibility to release music exactly the way **Muzak For Cages** wanted to (being aware though, that the Internet has some seriously sinister roots, too).

In the past, a lot of their ‚muzak' was compiled for "albums" and "singles", but since those were not released publicly, they don't have a real release-date. For this document we decided, to inform those interested, of the "albums" in the approximate order they happened. These albums are permanently available for free streaming and download on "archive.org", except if indicated otherwise.

- Gunda Spina, July 2022

You can find all our available music here:

https://archive.org/details/@muzak_for_cages

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die objektive Linsengruppe

Muzak For Cages:
BPM - BLACK PICTURE MUSIC
1984-1986, 2022 Remaster

These are the oldest surviving cassette-recordings by Muzak For Cages. Everything prior to this has been destroyed, because it wasn't supposed to be heard by anyone, ever. Some dark echoes from a dark time, polished up in a careful remixing & remastering process.

This is not available on archive.org.

Various Artists:
Erdenklang Musik Vol. III - Collector's Items
1992

This is a Sampler from German label „Erdenklang“, the first record company to sign Muzak For Cages. Although several album projects were discussed here, only two tracks surfaced on this release. It is still availlable commercially and therefore doesn’t appear on archive.org.

Muzak For Cages would like to thank Ulrich Rützel, the former owner of „Erdenklang“, for giving us the first chance.

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Muzak For Cages:
PIANO MUSIC
1991-2010, 2022 Remaster

Piano Music was started, while we were still with „Erdenklang“, but became a real bastard of an album. This was mainly because of unsolveable problems with the recording techniques. The tracks came fast an lightly, but Muzak For Cages and pianist Michaela Geist suffered from bad recording equipment. Nevertheless, the 2010 Remaster brought some justice to the music and finally the 2022 Remaster gave the album a good shape, though some of the tracks still have demo-quality.

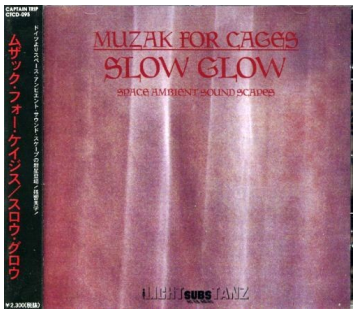
Muzak For Cages:
LIGHT MUSIC
1993-2008, 2022 Remaster

Same as „Piano Music“, this was started while Muzak For Cages were still with „Erdenklang“. Some of the material bears the same audible difficulties, too.

The album was supposed to be a collection of simulated ensemble-music. Another album called „NachtMusik“, containing a set of pieces for virtual-organ, happened some years later and got nowhere. When the time came to do this definitive version of „Light Music“ in 2022, the best material from both these projects was combined here.

Muzak For Cages:
TRYPTICHON
1996, 2008 Remaster

Muzak For Cages always liked a kind of music, that doesn't seem to move, stays static and has a hypnotic feel. Not too many people can relate to such an effort, so these three lenghthy tracks were compiled on one album for ‚nerds'.



This original mix is not available on archive.org.

Muzak For Cages:
SLOW GLOW
1998

The German label „FÜNFUNDVIERZIG" released Muzak For Cages' first and only proper album in 1998. „FÜNFUNDVIERZIG" had a deal with japanese label „Captain Trip", who released a small contingent of „Slow Glow" there.

The recordings were done on DAT and the mastering guy found an additional track at the end of the tape. He thought that this is part of the album and included it. That's why after a more quiet album, all of a sudden an infernalic noise happens at the end of the disc.

Muzak For Cages sincerely thanks Piet Manns for everything, concering the release of this album.

Muzak For Cages:
SLOW GLOW
1998, 2008, 2021 Remaster

Muzak For Cages weren't satisfied with the way, they themselves had mixed and edited the Slow Glow 1998 album, especially the overkill of reverb. In 2008, a first REMASTER was done. The accidental „Bonus Track" was put where it belongs (onto the album „Tryptichon") and instead, the album got a new bonus track, as well as a complete additional Remix album…

Muzak For Cages:
SLOW GLOW GLOWING SLOW - The Slow Glow Remix Album
2008, 2021 Remaster

After revisiting „Slow Glow", Muzak For Cages fiddled around with the material and created some alternate versions that included digital rhythms. This seems to run counter to the original intention of the album, but spawned some interesting variations. Both 2008 efforts remained unreleased until in 2021 new remasters were done and made availlable on archive.org.

It was decided, that both albums should run in a continuous sequence.

Muzak For Cages:
POOL OF VISIONS
1999, 2022 Remaster

Ever since the beginning of Muzak For Cages, the band was drawn to a more dark side of spirituality. The turnaround didn't happen until around 2010, when a slow but continuous awakening occured. At the time these recordings were made, one could say, it was the darkest of times for Muzak For Cages. And there was no end to that in sight. That reflects in the music of this album, that tends to transport a feel of hopelessness and heaviness.

Muzak For Cages:
DAS STAHLKIRCHENGEBET
2000, 2022 Remaster

At the same period, Muzak For Cages wrote the music for „Pool of Visions", the idea came up, to do a „machine-opera" with spoken-word-arias. As mentioned above, the period was a quite dark one and so the opera became infiltrated by pure negativity. Muzak For Cages stopped the process and destroyed all material with the exception of one segment, that was free of all that darkness: „Das Stahlkirchengebet". This fragment of the finale gives an idea of what could have been...

Muzak For Cages:
MUSIC FOR A STUPID GENERATION
2003-2022, 2022 Remaster

Muzak For Cages never wanted to do „difficult" music all the time and in between projects, they often relaxed by producing a light-hearted kind of Techno-Pop. These tracks were originally intended as „singles", „collaborations" or „give-aways".

Muzak For Cages:
THE DAWN PRAYER
2004

A repetitive, hypnotic and meditative piece, to be listened to in quiet peace, or as BGM at a low volume.

This was in 4 segments at first, but since 2019, it was decided to make this available unaltered, but in a continuous sequence.

Muzak For Cages:
SILENCE
2005, 2018 REMASTER

A kind of twin album to „Slow Glow", consisting of ethereal, hypnotic and free-flowing moods. The original version was seperated into various tracks, but in 2018, when this was remastered, it was decided to put together two segments of gliding „mega-mixes". The album title suggests, that this music would work best at a low volume.

Muzak For Cages:
MUSIK FÜR VIRTUELLE ORGEL
2005, 2022 REMASTER

This was originally titled „NachtMusic“ („NightMusic“) and was a collection of pieces for virtual-organ. Somehow it never seemed to work, until Muzak For Cages finally realized, that the combination of uptempo-pieces and meditative stuff was the problem. In the 2022 remastering process, one half of the album was integrated into „Light Music“ and the rest forms this now 40minute ambient-work.

Muzak For Cages:
ß
2001-2009, 2022 REMASTER

This album underwent heavy changes, since it compiles excerpts from various periods and projects in the history of Muzak For Cages. Adding „An aural orgy“ to it, came to mind in the 2022 remastering process. That one was originally an album of it’s own, but because of the explicit content, it seemed impossible to be released. This mild version happened in a remixing session and clearly called for a new home on this compilation.

Muzak For Cages:
KINKERLITZCHEN The Muzak For Cages Singles Collection
(Deluxe double-album including A+B Sides 1993-2009)
2009, 2022 REMASTER

Every now and then, Muzak For Cages produced tracks, that often fit nowhere and are considered „Singles“. Those tunes were used as bonus-tracks or filled demo-CDs and giveaways. In 2009 Muzak For Cages decided to do a proper collection of these tracks that span from 1993 up to 2009.

A sequel to this came to life as „THRP!“. That one includes several sole tracks that appeared shortly on various sites in the Internet. After this, the next real Muzak For Cages single was released in 2022.

There are also several virtual-singles by „Musikverbot“ on „jamendo“. Those are not included in this document, because they are not availlable on archive.org.

Muzak For Cages:
LOOPING YOUR BEAUTY
2010, 2021 REMASTER

Another techno-pop effort. The first version had several interludes and didn’t work at all. While remastering this, Muzak For Cages came to the conclusion, that the album held far too many tracks and the interludes went. All other tracks were „mega-mixed“ to a continuous sequence, to run non-stop.

Muzak For Cages:
THE AMBIENT COLLECTION
2012, 2021 REMASTER

One of the collections of Muzak For Cages music, this time presenting their ambient side. The original version had tracks, but like for some of the other albums, it was decided while doing the remaster in 2021, to do a „mega-mix“ for a continuous flow experience.

Muzak For Cages:
AUTISTIQ
2012

Some kind of non-verbal radioplay, the way Muzak For Cages did for their radio-show „Der Frost Zirkus“. This one was done later, but has the same psychotic / psychedelic feel to it.

Muzak For Cages:
LIGHT (Single)
2012

Produced in 1999, this virtual-single was the first release by Muzak For Cages on the Internet. They gave it to „jamendo“ for a short while before deleting it. „jamendo“ automaticly posted this on archive.org at the time and you can still find it there today. (The single is also included on „Kinkerlitzchen“.)

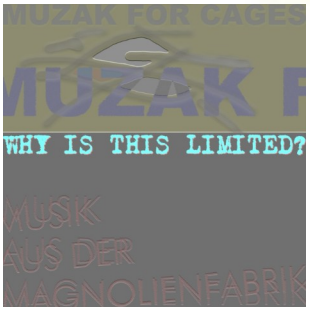
Muzak For Cages:
109
2013

Music from a dull period in Muzak For Cages' history, where nothing really worked out right. So this album is a loose collection of more or less finished/unfinished demos, all of them running at 109 BPM.

Muzak For Cages:
ØPLPAICZE
2013

Piece of electronic music in three movements, containing a variety of musical styles from musique concrete to techno-pop, hints of jazz and world music. Muzak For Cages came out of their „dark“ period and gained more clarity spiritually, as well as in their views on how their music should sound: old-fashioned, no matter what.

In the year 2013, **Musikverbot** started their side-project of „virtual-singles with two b-sides“ on „jamendo“. These singles are not availlable on archive.org and can be found here: https://www.jamendo.com/artist/484210/musikverbot

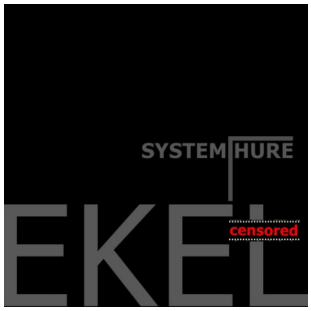


Muzak For Cages:
MUSIK AUS DER MAGNOLIENFABRIK
2014-2015

From now on, Muzak For Cages worked diffrently. Ideas started to occur out of nothing and more often, everything fell into place. That led to the variable collection „THRP!“ as well as several side-projects. „MUSIK AUS DER MAGNOLIENFABRIK“ was an end and a beginning at the same time. It celebrated 35 years of Muzak For Cages and, by looking back, it became clearer, where the band was heading...

Michaela Geist & Plants Behind Bars:
NOWADAYS THEY IMPRISON FLOWERS, DON'T THEY?
2015-2022

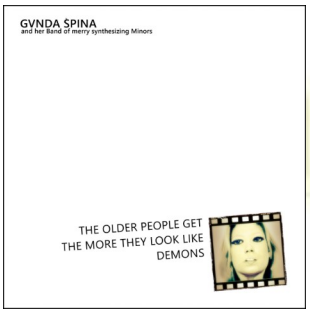
In 2015 Michaela Geist, arranger and virtual-organ player for Muzak For Cages, made an album called „Music from the Belly“, which existed as a twin to „Musik aus der Magnolienfabrik“ and was exclusively streamed on „SoundCloud“, before it was taken down to be reworked in 2021. Michaela wanted to mix the best parts of her deleted EP „Plastiq Music“ and the album „Music from the Belly“ to weave a new musical web by adding some collaborations with Musikverbot and Gunda Spina.



SystemHure:
EKEL (censored)
2019-2022

In 2019 a new project was born at LICHTsubsTANZ: SystemHure. Immediately a song emerged out of nothing and was released as a single-file, called „Give me my chip“. It took only a few weeks and they threw a whole album on the table, dealing with the darkest things ever discussed at the LICHTsubsTANZ headquater. The album was brilliant, but absolutely far too hard for listeners to get a hold of. A few more single-files were posted on „SoundCloud“ and SystemHure took the time, to rework the album under a new title: EKEL („Disgust“); strangely enough, though it was censored, the work was even better than before.

SystemHure also collaborated with Gunda Spina, Muzak For Cages, Musikverbot and Michaela Geist on the single-file: „Schluß jetzt!“ you also may find on „SoundCloud“.



Gunda Spina and her Band of merry synthesizing Minors:
THE OLDER PEOPLE GET, THE MORE THEY LOOK LIKE DEMONS
2022

Gunda is our „Holly Golightly“ and brought a fresh look at the music done at LICHTsubsTANZ. Together with some collaborative friends, she made an album of weird and funny electronica.

Muzak For Cages:
THRP! A Variable Collection this is just one possible variation
2015-2022

The idea for this compilation was around for more than 25 years. The album was supposed to be a home for sole tracks, that don't have a home on any other album, alternative versions, remixes, as well as collaborations and tracks that were done by other artists. The point was, to release them on different sites, sometimes even for a few minutes only. Anyone who was interested could collect the downloads like trading cards. In 2022, while doing a lot of remastering, Muzak For Cages decided to compile an album of these tracks to save them from getting lost.

Musikverbot:
GEDINGEN Unfinished Business
2022

In 2013, Musikverbot started to remix some of Muzak For Cages' music and were suggested, why not do some tracks of their own. Musikverbot were more into mixing and editing and had no great interest in composing, so they took music and leftovers by Muzak For Cages and didn't only remix, but re*work* them and add own musical ideas. By doing that, they invented their own style of „Stupid Muziek“, as they called it, and presented it on 13 virtual ‚singles with two b-sides' exclusively on „jamendo“ (see above).

While they worked on the remasters for Muzak For Cages in 2021 and 2022, the idea was born, to do the first Musikverbot-album. A few of the previously released single-tracks were chosen, plus some bits and pieces by Muzak For Cages and a share of new material and collaborations with Michaela Geist; that made a nice collection of ‚unfinished business'.

Muzak For Cages:
IT'S A GOOD DAY EVERYDAY (Single)
2022

In 2022, while working on the remasters for some of their old albums, Muzak For Cages briefly returned to the concept of a single. Out of nowhere came two cuts, that seemed to fit together perfectly. It's Muzak For Cages' message for all: Peace Be With You.